Participating Employer Public employers that employ individuals who are eligible for membership in a State retirement or pension system.

Participating Governmental Unit A city, county or other local municipal government unit or any

other employer specifically named in retirement law that participates in a state retirement or pension system. Only counties and municipal corporations in Maryland are eligible to participate in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System.

Primary Beneficiary Individual with first claim to a member/retiree's benefits.

Qualifying Leave of Absence An employer-approved, SRPS-authorized absence from work

without pay, granted for the following specific purposes: personal illness; birth or legal adoption of a child, temporary employment with another governmental employer, and study.

Retirement Coordinator

An employee, usually a personny of five of a participating

employer, who is trained to assist members with basic retirement

matters such as the completion of SL/S forms.

SRA State Retirement Agency. The state agency that administers the

State Retirement and Pension System.

SRPS State Retirement and Jension System